

IUCN SSC Penguin Specialist Group

2020 Report



Pablo García-Borboroglu



P. Dee Boersma

Co-Chairs

Pablo García-Borboroglu (1,2,3)
P. Dee Boersma (2,3)

Red List Authority Coordinator

Pablo García-Borboroglu (1,2,3)

Location/Affiliation

- (1) CONICET, Puerto Madryn, Chubut, Argentina
- (2) Global Penguin Society
- (3) Department of Biology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, US

Number of members

70

Social networks

Twitter: @IUCNPenguin
Website: www.penguinsg.org



Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Penguin Specialist Group (PSG) is to provide scientific advice that informs policy and engages people in effective conservation action.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

The disconcerting and rapid population decreases reported for most of the world's penguin species will be reversed only through immediate and affirmative action on the part of the global community of researchers, governmental entities, conservation organisations, fisheries' managers and the general public. If we address the identified threats, undertake priority research needs using an interdisciplinary and integrated approach, and begin to implement appropriate conservation actions, management could perhaps slow or stop the observed decreases in penguin populations. We wish to call attention to the plight of this important and charismatic taxonomic group, whose dire situation is a clear reflection of the current escalating crisis facing the world's marine ecosystems, and as indicators of future global warming scenarios.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) complete assessment of Little Penguin (*Eudyptula minor*); (2) reassess Red List status of penguin species.

Research activities: (1) publish a paper with the most recent update on the ecology and conservation of all penguin species; (2) identify priority areas of research needed; (3) identify the three penguin species in most critical need of help; (4) publish a paper on the priority conservation and research needs for all species and the identification of three species in need of most help.

Plan

Planning: (1) convene a meeting of the PSG Steering Committee focused on catalysing a Wild Penguins in Perpetuity Conservation Strategy; (2) convene a meeting of the PSG Steering Committee to define priorities for global penguin conservation prior to the International Penguin Congress in New Zealand; (3) define priority conservation actions needed.

Policy: (1) hold a Steering Committee meeting in May 2018 to define priorities for global penguin conservation; (2) hold a Steering Committee meeting in August 2019 to update the status of the PSG, suggest new members and define future goals.

Network

Membership: continue to add expert members as needed.

Synergy: (1) convene a meeting of the PSG Steering Committee to update on the progress made since our last meeting in New Zealand in September 2019; (2) convene virtual meetings with Steering Committee members in June and November 2020.



Cover of journal *Conservation Biology*, where we published our last paper

Communicate

Communication: (1) start process to design the Specialist Group official website; (2) start process to elaborate the logo of the Specialist Group.

Activities and results 2020

Network

Membership

i. We have twenty-four new members.

Synergy

i. A meeting of the PSG Steering Committee was held.

ii. Four virtual meetings with Steering Committee members were held.

Communicate

Communication

i. The website has been designed. (KSR #28)

ii. Our logo has been elaborated and agreed upon.

Summary of activities 2020

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 2/5

Network **3** |||

Communicate **2** ||

Main KSRs addressed: 28

KSR: Key Species Result



Screenshots of our website www.penguinsg.org